

Boo and his track coach, Phil LaFountaine, had bigger dreams. Three months after being fitted with a prosthetic leg, with family, friends and teammates looking on, Boo Barton defied all the odds by running the 100-meter race at the Groesbeck Goat relays. His time: 14.06. Some may say that was not the winning time that day, but I and everyone in the stands know better.

Mr. Speaker, Boo Barton is an inspiring example to all of us. He shows us with the power of positive thinking and persistence through adversity, you can still dream bold dreams in America.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FULLY FUND THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

(Mr. ETHERIDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday afternoon the President held a Rose Garden ceremony to celebrate the No Child Left Behind Act. I voted for that legislation and I wish I could have joined in the celebration, but unfortunately because the administration refuses to fund the new law, I spent my afternoon answering questions from unhappy local leaders in my district who wanted to know where the money is going to come from to pay for the President's education reforms. Despite yesterday's White House photo op, the fact remains that the administration is cutting \$20 billion from No Child Left Behind. Local leaders know that they will get stuck with the bill for these educational cuts.

Make no mistake, the Bush educational cuts will result in worse schools, cuts in local services like law enforcement and fire and rescue or higher property taxes, or all of the above. There has got to be a better way.

Last week I introduced H.R. 2366, the Fully Fund the No Child Left Behind Act. My bill simply requires the Federal Government to fund No Child Left Behind. Mr. Speaker, it is only fair. I urge my colleagues to join us in this legislation.

#### MEDICARE

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, finally a strengthened Medicare system that includes prescription drug coverage seems to be the number one priority for both houses of Congress. The time is right to make progress. We have a tremendous opportunity to reform Medicare and help our seniors. The budget of \$400 billion over the next 10 years is enough to strengthen and improve Medicare, so we do have the resources to make reform work.

Our Nation has made a binding commitment to bring affordable health

care to our seniors. We must honor that commitment by making sure Medicare stays current with the needs of today's seniors. When Medicare was launched 38 years ago, medicine focused on surgery and hospital stays. Today doctors routinely treat patients with prescription drugs, preventive care and groundbreaking medical devices. Our goal is to give seniors the best, most innovative care. This will require a strong, up-to-date Medicare system that relies on innovation and quality delivery, not bureaucratic rules and regulations. We can reach that goal now.

#### VETERANS FACE INCREASED COSTS FOR HEALTH CARE

(Mr. STRICKLAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point out the shabby treatment that this House and the administration is directing toward our Nation's veterans and our Nation's children. Just yesterday it was confirmed in the Committee on Veterans' Affairs that the administration continues to push for a \$250 annual enrollment fee for many of our veterans just to be able to participate in the VA health care system. They want to increase the cost of a prescription drug from \$7 to \$15 a prescription. They want to increase the cost of a clinic visit from \$15 to \$20. At a time when our young men and women are fighting for this country in Iraq, this President and this Congress want to impose additional financial hardships on the backs of our veterans. It does not make sense. It is time for the people of this country to become aware of what is happening. This administration is treating our veterans in a shabby manner and it ought to stop.

#### EXPANDING THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, for the last few days the Democrats have been demanding that the Republicans bring up the child tax credit and extend it for lower-income working families. The Senate passed this bill. It is time for the House to bring it up. What do we hear today? What have the House Republicans done? Basically what they have done is to take this very small amount of money, \$3.5 billion that will pay for these 12 million kids to get their child tax credit, and they have now expanded it, they are not paying for it and they are trying to cover and pay \$82 billion for an expanded tax break for wealthier individuals.

Why is it that we cannot just take up the Senate-passed bill, give these 12 million kids and their parents a tax

break that they deserve, and instead we are holding this bill hostage so that we can have more tax breaks for wealthier people and deal with other tax issues that are not germane to these 12 million kids? I resent the fact that the House Republicans are now holding this bill hostage, holding these working families hostage to try to expand tax cuts for other people and wealthier individuals.

#### EXPANDING THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, can I read the roll: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Texas, Florida, Georgia. And it goes on and on; 19 million children left out in the cold.

Mr. Speaker, why can we not be a cooperative and collaborative Congress that works on behalf of the American people? Why is it that the President has made a statement this morning or yesterday saying support the Senate bill? What kind of leadership says that the President's representative who has asked this Congress to collaborate to provide a tax credit refund for working families, Ari Fleischer, someone says, "He does not have a vote"?

Mr. Speaker, the American people have a vote. I frankly do not hear those making \$150,000 clamoring for this tax credit refund for children but I do hear the working families who make \$26,000, who get up early in the morning, who pay payroll taxes, property taxes, and sales taxes saying, give us a simple break. Allow the Senate bill to go forward, allow the President to sign it. Let us work on behalf of the American people and not special interests.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

#### COMMERCIAL SPECTRUM ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1320) to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to facilitate the reallocation of spectrum from governmental to commercial users, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows: